(THERE IS GOING TO BE A LOT OF GRAMMER AND CITATION ISSUES, I HAVE NOT HAD TIME TO COMPLETE THIS I AM SORRY)

International Federation of Association football also know as FIFA contains many players from around the world. On a team there may be many different nationalities and many different languages spoken. Most of them cannot speak the same language, but they are still able to create a team with good chemistry, which is an important feature in a competitive team. There were many things created/techniques used in order to overcome the language barrier in the sport of soccer. So how is the language barrier overcome? There are many things that help overcome the difficulties of the language barrier in soccer.

One of the most important ways that the language barrier was overcome in FIFA was the red and yellow card. These cards changed the game of soccer very drastically. In the late 1900s, it was really tough for players to communicate with the refs, and therefore most the time they never understood the ref so they did not know what the foul was. When they didn’t know what the foul was, they would not correct it, this made them continually get in trouble for the same thing over and over again. Vederan Corluka a famous Croatian player tells us after they lost their openening match “He was speaking Japenese, so it was really difficult to communicate with him.” (**CITE)** In the game, if you cannot communicate with the ref in the game, it makes it difficult to understand what he is calling. Every ref calls different fouls, and if you cannot understand what he is calling, then it is hard to avoid it.

This was not the only incident of miscommunication with the ref. “Off” is a universal word, everyone understand what that means, at least they thought. Argentina’s captain in 1966 Antonio Rattin tells us his misunderstanding in the intense quarterfinal match Argentina vs. England. The ref in this match was German. In the game, there was a foul called on Antonio, and he questioned the foul. The problem was he only spoke Spanish and so he started questioning in Spanish and with gestures, which the ref took that in a bad way, and said “Off.” Well Rattin did not understand English, therefore did not understand that “off” meant leave the field, so he continued to stay on the field. This caused major controversy, and the FIFA board finally realized after this game, that this problem needed to be resolved. This is when the red and yellow cards were born. **(Maybe cite this paragraph, at least pieces of it)** Ken Aston, a head referee at the time in FIFA came up with the idea. “Yellow, take it easy; red: stop, you’re off.” **(CITE)** Now every soccer player knows that if you see a yellow card, you are being watched and you better take it easy, because if you see a red card pulled on you, you not only miss the rest of the current game, but you miss the whole next game. The red and yellow card is only one way of overcoming the language barrier in the sport of soccer.

The card method helped overcome the language barrier, but the invention of “formations” and people’s role in each formation was another crucial part. With the creation of soccer formations, the game of football looked completely different, and way more organized. (**need to introduce quote)** “In the earliest days of football there were no specific formations or designated positions. Football was played like a children’s game of kick and run…” **(CITE)** If you have ever watched a kids game, it literally is kick and run, they all chase the ball and the people with the ball. This was partially because players did not understand how each player o their team play, and the other half was to do with the language barrier/their inability to communicate with their teammates.

**(Introduce Quote)** “The earliest football formation was a 1-2-7, with only one center back, two half backs, and seven forwards, it reflects the all-attacking nature of football in that era.” (**CITE)** This invented a whole new sport. Even if the players were not able to understand each other, they would still be able to understand the formation the team wants to play in and the role need to fulfill. It no longer looks like kick and run, but more of an actual competitive sport. Formations were a huge part in changing not only the sport of soccer, but also the actual understanding of the sport, and communication between players with different nationalities back in the day.

Leading by example, until they understand the language of their team actually breaks the language barrier more than people many think. If you do not speak the primary language of the person you are trying to get a point across, it can be very difficult to transfer the information you want them to receive effectively. Rather than trying to spend extra time explaining to them in a way that they understand, when there is so little time between games, why not show them and teach them that way? Leading by example can be very effective. Soccer play Masudi from ELL tells us, “When playing soccer, it is more about skills on the field. Coach does a lot of demonstrating what he wants us to do” **(CITE).** Until players and coaches are able to speak the same language, which they work on daily, they have to get their message across during practice. In this case, Masudi, the captain of the soccer team, and the coach do many demonstrations in order to get the message across. Leading by example is very important in the players perspective, but there are some key factors in coaching that can really help break this barrier.

Coaches have many different ways to make sure that their players understand the message that they are trying to get across weather they speak the same language of not. They will continually try different methods until they are confident that their team understands. Coaching effectively does not just include language. (INTRODUCE QUOTE) “We know that body, language, posture, gestures (nonverbal communication) are all very important in transmitting messages to others, especially messages of enthusiasm and commitment.” **(CITE)** The coach needs to help break these barriers and those are only a few ways of doing it nonverbally. The 3 most important skills would be verbal, visual, and physical communication. (FINISH IDEA AND PAPER)

<http://www.football-bible.com/soccer-info/old-football-formations.html>